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59/52/10	PSEC/CIA, D/Z
SC No.	04793
Copy No.	. <b>. 5</b> 9
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SOVIET UNION MILITARY-ECONOMIC REPORT
Translated from the German Report 1/6
Dated: 5 June 1943

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#### PREFACE

During the Second World War the German Signal Intelligence Control Center of the Staff of the Chief of Army Signal Service (HNW, LNA) issued a series of reports to show the USSR military-economic situation as reflected in Russian internal plain language traffic. These reports appeared at short, irregular intervals, usually six per month, for the period October 1942-March 1945. Eight Abba of these reports have been translated and issued by

It is planned to issue a complete set of translations of the re-FOIAb3a ports, beginning with the most recent and working backward, but omitting those already translated by The numbering of the items was added by the translator The numbering of the items was added by the translator The numbers did this only in the last eighteen reports, inclusive. Since the original material was in Russian, an effort has been made when translating the German to determine the original Russian term wherever possible. This is facilitated by the Russian fondness for abbreviations. In these translations into English the probable meaning of the abbreviation will be given in parenthesis the first time it occurs in each report.

5 June 1943

### The Soviet Union

### Military-Economic Report 1/6

(Based on Domestic Radio Traffic)

### General

- (1) Difficulties in the personnel question have increased further, which may in fact be traced to a new draft call.
- (2) In the River Fleet, as can be concluded from summing up several messages, specialists may not be called up for military service. The remaining personnel of the River Fleet may not be mobilized for any purpose except military service.
- (3) The unfavorable situation in the transportation system mentioned in the last military-economic report has undoubtedly been eased. In particular, a radical improvement of the railroad transport situation in the Caucasus is to be recognized.
- (4) It has recently been repeatedly confirmed that the Civil Air Fleet has entered into close relations with Anglo-American authorities. Units of the Civil Air Fleet are in Iran.
- (5) Cooperation of Glavsevmorput' (Chief Directorate of the Northern Sea Route) with the Civil Air Fleet has also recently been identified.
- (6) Grain beetles have appeared in the Saratov and Sverdlovsk Oblasti. The Civil Air Fleet must spray these oblasti with insecticides.

### Individual Messages

### 1) Personnel Situation

- (7) All NKRF offices are to report the total number of radio operators of all ranks up to 30 years of age who are fit for field service.
- (8) In order to assure the accomplishment of the tasks of the River Fleet, the Presidium of the Supreme Council published a decree on 20 May according to which those belonging to the River Fleet may not be called up for military service. One may conclude from further messages that, according to this decree, specialists of

the River Fleet are excused from military service in any case, and other personnel can be called up for the army but are not subject to mobilization for labor battalions or for the projects of other authorities.

- (9) The spheres of power of individual offices (of the NKRF and of the military okrug authorities) are apparently not exactly defined in relation to one another, for tensions continually arise, on the one hand because of the draft by the military okrug authorities, on the other hand by the draft exemptions demanded by the NKRF offices for their personnel.
- (10) According to the present messages, mobilizations are taking a very unsatisfactory course. The following table allows clear recognition of the constantly increasing difficulties:

Office	<u>Mobilized</u>	Were to be <u>Mobilized</u>
Gor'kij Oblast', for the Upper Volga Steamship Agency	113	280
Mari Oblast'		50
Astrakhan	125	780
for the Kama Steamship Agency	201	465
Khabarovsk, Upper Amur Steamship Agency	50	<u>125</u>
Agoney	489	1700

Therefore, only 28% of the labor force expected through mobilization has been obtained.

(11) The following table illustrates the personnel situation at the NKRF office in Ural'sk:

On Hand	Still Needed
4	8
14	•
16	12
13	8
8	2
3	2
1	1
18	16
2	. 1
2	1
	4 14 16 13 8 3 1 18 2

	On Hand	Still Needed
electromechanics stove-fitters machinists	4 1 7	. 2
milling machinists joiners painters	1 2 <u>4</u>	1 ==
	100	54

- (12) Working hours are being increased in order to compensate for the lack of personnel. Thus the motor vehicle transport of the CD for Highways in Erivan has gone over completely to job work.
- (13) The Armenian NK for Agriculture in Erivan fulfilled the following trainingplan up to 20 May (the plan probably covers the second quarter):

	Plan	Trained	In Training	Newly Arrived
tractor drivers	2,000	1,407	476	
mower-thresher drivers	555	264	192	
foremen	75	17		45
turners	30	22		
fitters	30	14		
smiths	30	8		
motor vehicle drivers	185	30	30	125
mechanics	50	28		-
welders	20	4		***
electricians	30	4		

#### 2) Food Situation

- (14) The procurement of seed grain and seed potatoes and the completion of sowing seem to meet with considerable difficulty. The reason therefore lies essentially in the strained transport and food situations. There does not seem to be a lack of the necessary seeds.
- (15) In Stalingrad, NKRF, the sowing of summer grain has been considerably delayed. It must be completed by 1 June, so all available methods are being used.
- (16) The dispatching of grain destined for Astrakhan is taking an unsatisfactory course because of insufficient shipments from the supply points.
  - (17) From a message between Alma-Ata and Gur'ev it appears that sowing is

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proceeding unsatisfactorily in Alma-Ata too. In Akmolinsk, however, the work has been finished.

- (18) The Black Sea Fleet's plan for mowing hay has been set at 260 tons.
- (19) Worthy of mention is the fact that dried fruit is being imported into Georgia.

### I. Authorizations for Military Organizations

Consignee (20)	Quantity	Type	Consignor	Remarks
Commissary Dept. of the Black Sea Fleet at Poti	50 tons 30 tons	Butter Milk		for June
(21) NK for Defense of the Land, Camp 240 in Bnori (not located)	127	Tobacco	Azerbajdzhan	
II. <u>Authorizatio</u> (22)	ns for the	Civilian Sector		
Georgian NK for Trade, Tiflis	100 tons	Tea	Georgian Tea Sales, Tiflis	additional for retail trade against food cards in the 2nd quarter
Caucasian Republic	5.7 <b>"</b>	Brick Tea	Ħ	for 1st qtr.
(24) Georgian Canning Trust, Tiflis (25)	1 "	Tea	Ħ	
CD for Textile Supply, Tiflis (26)	13 "	Vegetable Oil	Vegetable Oil Sales, Baku	
Astrakhan, "Volga Tanker" (27)	2.5 "	Animal Fats	Kazan <sup>†</sup>	
Gor'kij, NKRF (28)	75	Seed Potatoes		
Astrakhan, NKRF	300 **	Ħ	Gor'kij	***
Stalingrad, Lower	50 <b>*</b>	w	*	
Volga Steamship Agency	30 <b>"</b>	Eating Potatoes		
	30 , "	Vegetables		
(30)	10 "	Sugar	Sugar Factory in Melekes (80 km. ESE of Ulyanovsk	
(31) Astrakhan, "Volga Tanker	n 8 n	Ħ	•	

(32)				
Gor'kij, Plant	4 tons	Fish		
"Ulyanov Lenin"				
(33) Ust'-Usa, NKRF (34)	18 "	Groats	Komi Oblast'	
NK for Meat and Dairy Industry, Erivan	100 *	Salt		In May
(35) Rostov/Don	120 "	Plum Jam	Canning Trust, Tiflis	in May for retail trade
(36) Krasnodar	50 <b>"</b>		Ħ	'n
III. Authoriz	ations for Impr	covement of Child N	utrition	
(37)			•	
Azerbajdzhan, Georgia	52 tons	Butter	Transcaucasian Meat & Dairy Sales, Tiflis	for June, July, and August
(38) Armenia	35 "	Cheese	<b>n</b>	•
(39) Azerbajdzhan	25 "	Meat	н	W
(40) Georgia (41)	35 <b>"</b>	Ħ	<b>n</b>	•
Armenia (42)	29	Ħ	Ħ	₹.
Ordzhonikidze	8.6"	<b>n</b> .	Meat and Dairy Sales, Pyatigor	n esk
(43) Checheno-Ingush (44)	6.4 <b>*</b>	Ħ	•	я
North Ossetia	3.3 <b>*</b>	Meat	Meat and Dairy Sales, Pyatigor	for June, sk July, & August
(45) Dagestan	3.2	Ħ	•	•
(46) Kabardino-Balkar	1.5"	Ħ	n	**
IV. <u>Deliveries</u>	. Turnover, and	l Stocks		
(47)				
Kujbyshev, NKRF	408 tons	Fish		allotment in 2nd qtr. for various offices
(48) Astrakhan, NKRF	8.2"	Animal Fats		₩

<sup>(49)</sup> Georgian railroad personnel have received a shipment of 40 tons of dates. An additional 50 tons of dried fruit was scheduled. 30 tons of plum jam are being delivered for that. In case dried fruits are being imported, an additional 100 tons

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is to be requisitioned.

(50) The Canning Trust in Kutaisi produced 8 tons of canned goods on 22 May.

Inventory:

71 tons of rice
20 " " manna groats
20 " " millet groats
43 " " barley groats
3.5" " dried fruit
234 " " spoiled rice

- (51) The NK for the Meat and Dairy Industry in Tiflis had a 1316 ton supply of livestock on 25 May.
- (52) The Canning Factory in Batumi produced 7 tons of canned goods on 24 May. There is an inventory of 82 tons. No shipments took place.
  - (53) The city of Tiflis had the following supplies on 25 May:

at	the	Grain Procurement:	351 729	tons	of n	flour groats
			281	Ħ	n	rye
			77	11	n	wheat
at	the	Milling Combine:	548	11	Ħ	flour
		J	108		17	groats
			3071	11	87	wheat
at	the	bakeries:	804	n	n	flour
			1	Ħ	Ħ	groats

#### 3) Oil Supply

(54) There are no changes to be noted in the oil supply situation. The requisitions, authorizations, and turnovers noted are listed as follows:

### I. Requisitions

Consignee	Quantity	<u>Type</u>	Remarks
(55) Georgian Central Executive Committee of the Party in Tiflis (56)	60 tons 40 **	Gasoline Petroleum	for May
C.D. for Timber Supply in Tiflis (57)	0.5 <sup>n</sup> 1 "	Gasoline Petroleum	for June
Military Reconstruction Directorate of the Lower Volga, Stalingrad	5 <b>u</b>	Gasoline	for the 1 st week in June
(58) Astrakhan, NKRF	30 <b>"</b>	Solidol	for supplying ships of "Volga Tanker"

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(59) C.D. for Timber Supply, Tiflis	1.5	tons	011	for June
II. <u>Authorizations</u> (60)				
"Baksanstroj", Baksan (61)	30	tons	Gasoline	additional in May
Manganese Trust,	15	₩	n	
Chiaturi	4	п	Petroleum	in May, from Oil Supply, Tiflis
(62)		_		
NK for Health in Pyatigorsk	13.4 29.7		Gasoline Petroleum	May supply. 1.8 tons of the pe- troleum for technical pur- poses, 11.6 tons for agricultural purposes
(63) Omsk, Water Transport Base	1.5		Petroleum	additional in May
(64) Khabarovsk, Water Transport Base (65)	0.5	•	Gasoline	Ħ
Saratov, NKRF (66)	0.3	Ħ	•	π
Astrakhan, "Volga Tanker"	300	tt	Oil	in May for June supply

(67) The fuels and lubricants listed below are authorized for the following water transport bases in the second quarter:

			(in t	ons)				
Water Transport Base in	Nimal	Motor	Viscosin	Cylinder Oil	Avtol	Solidol	Machine Oil	Spindle Oil
Dase In	Nigrol	<u>0il</u>	VISCOSIN	<u> UII</u>	AV COT	5011401		
Khabarovsk		1.5	2.0	1.0	2.0	0.8	2.0	
Ust'-Usa		1.0	1.8		1.0	0.5	2.0	
Novosibirsk		0.5	2.0	0.5	1.0	0.5	3.0	
Irkutsk		0.7	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.5	2.0	
Ural'sk	0,3	0,3	0.5		1.5		0.5	
Krasnoyarsk		5.0	1.0	6.0	1.0		0.2	
Hijsk		0.6	0.2		1.7	0.2	0.2	
Gor'kij NKRF		0.3			0.4		0.7	0.1

III. Turnover

(68) Kujbyshev, NKRF, gives the following accounting for fuel for the second 10-day period in May:

	Received	<u>Used</u>	On Hand	
Diesel Fuel Mazut	 4 tons	6 tons	0.5 tons	

- (69) Uvek, NKRF, reports its turnover as of 22 May:
  Mazut, received 2000 tons, used 891 tons, on hand 1110 tons.
- (70) 0.1 ton of avtol was delivered to Krasnoyarsk, NKRF, in the second quarter.

### 4) Textiles and Clothing

- (71) The messages at hand do not show any apparent acute lack in the fields of textiles and clothing. On the contrary, numerous deliveries are balanced against the requisitions.
- (72) There is an interesting shipment of linens and uniforms to various concentration camps in the Transcaucasus region, which points to a great number of prisoners, among them women.

### I. Requisitions

- (73) Ural'sk, NKRF, requires 3 tons of flax fiber. The River Fleet Supply in Gor'kij requires 500 meters of cloth for the manufacture of special clothing.
- (74) The 13th Department of Military Supervision in Krasnoyarsk requires uniforms, footwear, etc., since no deliveries of these articles have taken place for two years.

### II. Authorizations

### a) Raw Material

Consignee (75)	Quantity	Type	Consignor	Remarks
Gor'kij, NKRF	35 tons	Hemp	Flax Trust, Gorkij	
Middle Volga Steam- ship Agency (77)	20 **	<b>n</b>	Flax Trust, Kirov	
Belaya Steamship Agency (78)	10	a	•	
Ural Steamship Agency	5 "	Ħ	Ħ	

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(79) "Volga Tanker"	10 tons	Hemp	Flax Trust, Kirov	
(80) Upper Irtysh Steam- ship Agency	10 "	Flax fiber	Omsk	
(81) Military Guard, Gor'kij	10 "	н	Gorodets	
(82) Ufa, NKRF	5 *	я	Flax Trust, Gor'kij	

### b) Finished Products

(83) The Mortar Supply in Tiflis is to receive in the 2nd and 3rd quarters:

200 Pelts
1000 Half Pelts
5 tons Fleece Clippings

- (84) In July Stavropol' is to receive 10,000 meters of cloth from the Azerbajdzhan Silk Trust in Baku.
- (85) A base in Erivan of the Armenian NK for Health is to receive 300,000 meters of muslin from the Armenian NK for Textiles.
- (86) The office of the Military Guard in Ural'sk is receiving 50 pairs of footwear.

### III. Deliveries

- (87) The linen factory "Volodarsk" shipped 28,800 underdrawers from Kalinin to Baladzhary, destined for the naval station at Poti.
- (88) The NK for Light Industry in Erivan shipped a carload of boots on 2 May and another on 20 May to Navtlug for the Red Army.
- (89) The Armenian NK for Health in Erivan released 10,000 meters of muslin bandage and 1000 articles of bed-linen for the directorate of a sanatorium.
- (90) The Clothing Industry in Tiflis delivered to the directorates of concentration camps in the first half of May:

to Azerbajdzhan:

1000 shirts 1000 underdrawers 2000 uniform blouses 2000 uniform trousers 5000 towels

to Armenia:

500 shirts

500 underdrawers

2000 uniform blouses

2000 uniform trousers

2000 towels

to Dagestan:

650 padded uniform trousers

to Georgia:

100 robes 500 sheets 160 shirts 160 underdrawers 150 gym shirts 150 gym pants

100 mattress covers

- 265 short fur coats
- (91) In the second quarter the NK for Textiles in Erivan delivered an additional 40 tons of fabric to the Armenian government.
  - (92) The Ferrous Metal Supply in Sverdlovsk received from Tiflis:

125,000 head protectors 500 short fur coats 850 felt boots

- (93) 33 tons of cotton fiber in 5 carloads were shipped on 25 May for the factory "Molot" in Leninakan.
- (94) The Grain Procurement in Erivan has 384 canvas awnings at its disposal; 253 of these are in the bases at Erivan, Leninakan, and Kirovakan.

### 5) Production

- (95) The method used in NKRF offices to increase the output of work by granting bonuses and medals is bearing fruit.
- (96) Thus 50,000 rubles were paid to Zvenigovo, NKRF, for good output in April, and third prizes in excess of 30,000 rubles each to Gor'kij and Stalingrad, NKRF.
- (97) 100,000 rubles were paid as third prize to the members of the NKRF in Astrakhan, and an additional 25,000 rubles to an NKRF office there. 29,000 rubles went to various ships! companies for distribution.
- (98) Along with these reports of success, there are considerable arrears to be noted, including work important militarily.

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- (99) The repair shop of the "Procurement for Transport" in Tiflis completed up to 10 May only 19 of the 60 repair jobs ordered from it.
- (100) In Kujbyshev, NKRF, the orders of the Military Reconstruction Directorate are being carried out in an extremely unsatisfactory manner. A 24-hour work day is to be introduced so that the orders can be completed on time.
  - (101) Barnaul, NKRF, is considerably behind in fulfilling a government order.
- (102) Aral'sk, NKRF, cannot carry out any ship repairs for lack of labor and timber.
- (103) In connection with the intensive efforts of the Russians, already reported, to put industry in the liberated oblasti into operation, the report of the leather plant in Rostov/Don, which is close behind the front, is noteworthy; it has shipped up to 13 May:

2610 pieces of rawhide to Baku 5127 " " " Erivan 10 carloads of raw leather to Erivan

- (104) The production plan of the cement plant in Kaspi (40 kilometers northwest of Tiflis) appears in a message. It is to burn and pulverize 4000 tons of cement in June.
- (105) A plant in Vyksunsk (not located) shipped 496 double-decker beds to Batumi on 23 April and 10 May.
- (106) The Plant "Generator" in Tiflis, which works for the airplane industry, requires 500 three-cornered files, 250-millimeter size, instead of round files, because of a production change.

There are a few messages about the lively construction activity, known from earlier messages, in the sphere of industry and about the enlarging of existing plants:

(107) The NK for the Airplane Industry in Erivan requires 23,150 tons of oilbitumen No. 3 for completion of building blocks No. 22 and No. 23.

(108) The construction of a wine cellar begun in Tiflis is to be completed this year. The following materials have been authorized for completion of the building:

15,000 meters of conducting wire
500 " " cable
1,500 cubic meters of timber
10 tons of squared timber
1,000 rolls of roofing felt

(109) The NK for the Meat and Dairy Industry in Erivan is to receive 30 tons of cement for May, probably for expansion of buildings.

### 6) Civil Air Fleet

- (110) In a message of 28 May from Irkutsk to Moscow, the Chief of the Justice Department is named, with his office in Moscow. The existence of a separate justice department confirms that the Civil Air Fleet is an independent entity.
- (111) In addition the Chief of Technical Inspection (?), Lt. Gen. Petrov (stationed in Moscow), and the Chief of Troop Movements in Kazan' were named. According to NAL 1/5 there is also in Tashkent a military office for troop movements. There is, therefore, the presumption that such offices are to be found in all the larger centers.
- (112) It has recently been repeatedly confirmed that the Civil Air Fleet has entered into close relations with the Anglo-American authorities. Thus, for example, English-Russian technical dictionaries and English-Russian radio lexicons are to be sent to Irkutsk immediately. Moreover, the Civil Air Fleet is procuring from the USA drainage pump installations for airfields.
- (113) Units of the Civil Air Fleet are also in Iran. Thus reconnaissance flights are being made to Teheran. In addition 18 pilots are to be sent to Teheran immediately in order to regroup airplanes.
- (114) These messages have recently been showing a striking increase, so that the cooperation is apparently just now being put into effect with vigor.
- (115) Also cooperation of the Chief Directorate of the Northern Sea Route with the Civil Air Fleet was recently confirmed. For example, two U2 airplanes of this

directorate were placed at the disposal of the Oprishko Regiment. It is possible that the Arnold Expedition in Sejmchan-Omolon Oblast' (the Omolon is a tributary of the Kolomna, in the Far East) is also connected with this.

- (116) How diverse are the tasks of the Civil Air Fleet may be seen from a message according to which insecticides are to be sprayed from airplanes in the Saratov and Sverdlovsk Oblasti, where grain beetles have appeared.
- (117) The maintenance of the Civil Air Fleet seems to leave something to be desired, for the Oprishko Regiment received a reprimand because it had made use of its "permanent allocation" for maintenance.
- (118) The Kluson and Chankotadze groups were to send reports on combat experiences during the war to the Chief Directorate in Moscow by 1 June. It could be surmised that eventually, on the basis of these reports, necessary improvements in equipment and reserves are to be carried out.
  - (119) The following units could be newly identified:

FOLI TO 1 1	3 6 13 3 1 14		
50th Flight Regiment	named for the 1st time		
Flight (Regiment) Zolotov	named for the 1st time. identical		
	with the Group Zeletov reported on 25 May, location probably the		
	Moscow area		
3rd Transport Section	named for the 1st time (evidently		
	a flying society); the commander		
	is Shalev; location probably		
	Swardlowek		

(120) An unknown unit in Tiflis gives the following report for the second tenday period in May, illustrating the range of tasks and the technical condition of units of the Civil Air Fleet:

aircraft ready for take-off	15	
n not n n n	7	
flights made (including 15	525	
night flights)		
transport of mail	4	tons
transport of blood	59	kilograms
medicines	30	Ħ
parcels delivered	2554	

The following messages give an idea of the capacity of Civil Air Fleet repair shops:

- (121) Baku reports that 62 airplanes were repaired in the first ten-day period of April. This is evidently a consolidated report, because airplanes are being repaired in various ARM and ARB. Probably these airplanes are allocated to units in the Caucasus.
- (122) In Tashkent 6 motors were repaired in an airplane repair shop during the first ten-day period in April.
  - (123) The following were identified as airplane repair bases:

    11th Airplane Repair Base named for the 1st time identified ARB 405 in Alma-Ata
  - (124) The following plants were named:

    Plant 521, named for the first time, produces chrome products

    Plant 694, named for the first time, location probably Sverdlovsk